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INFORMATION ON FINNISH CHEMICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY OUTPUT IN 1951 -- Berlin, Aussenhandels Nachrichten, 25 Oct 52

For the Finnish chemical industry in general, 1952 was a year of further increased production. Sulfuric acid production increased by 24 percent, the production of phosphate fertilizers by 25 percent and that of mixed fertilizers by 250 percent. New plants for the production of fertilizers will be placed in operation shortly. Furthermore, the increases in production of the other heavy chemicals are of the same general magnitude. Corresponding to the increase of cellulose production from 1.19 million tons to 1.38 million tons, the extraction of the by-products of turpentine and liquid resin increased in proportion. The value of the production of the medicinal industry has risen to 1.3 billion Finnish marks. During the same period the import of prepared pharmaceutical products increased by almost 30 percent. The comparatively small organic synthetics industry has also continued to develop favorably. New products were placed on the market and the production of existing products expanded.

EXPANSION OF CHLORINE PRODUCTION -- Berlin, Aussenhandels Nachrichten, 23 Apr 52

The total Finnish production of sodium hydroxide amounted to 19,430 tons in 1951. The production of chlorine for the same period was 17,495 tons, an amount exceeding the 1950 production by 18 percent.

Chlorine made available to consumers amounted to 17,508 tons, i.e., 19 percent more than in 1950. This quantity is more or less equivalent to the total domestic need. Deliveries were broken down as follows: 14,185 tons (about 80 percent) to the cellulose industry, 3,104 tons to the chemical industry, and the remainder of 219 tons to the textile and other industries.

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NEW CHEMICALS -- Berlin, Aussenhandels Nachrichten, 28 May 52

Production of lacquer-collodion [nitrocellulose stock solutions for the production of lacquers] has increased considerably. Aside from fully meeting domestic demand, it is also exported. Pharmaceutical glycerin is among the new products that are to be manufactured. The product "Limantuho" (phenylmercury acetate) is widely used as a preservative in the paper industry. Extensive laboratory experiments having been completed, the manufacture of a wood preservative, "Lahontuho" (copper chromium arsenate), has begun.

PREDICT INCREASED UREA RESIN PRODUCTION -- Berlin, Aussenhandels Nachrichten, 9 Oct 52

Chemische Industrie [no date given] reports that the Rauma-Repola Oy is now in a position to produce annually 38 tons of urea-formaldehyde powder for pressed plastics. In 1951, only 14 tons of urea resins were produced in Finland.

SULFURIC ACID PRODUCTION -- Berlin, Aussenhandels Nachrichten, 2 Apr 52

The leading Finnish chemical firm, Rikkihappo ja Superfosfaattitehtaat Oy (Sulfuric Acid and Superphosphate Corporation), has increased its production of sulfuric acid to 116,571 tons in 1951, a 24-percent increase over 1950. In 1951, production of fertilizers increased 25 percent to a new annual figure of 239,688 tons. Of the fertilizers, 71,015 tons were superphosphate and 168,673 tons were lime phosphate.

PLASTICS PRODUCTION -- Berlin, Aussenhandels Nachrichten, 25 Oct 52

The total sales of all plants producing or processing plastics amounted to 1.6 billion Finnish marks during 1951. Production was 475 tons of phenol resins and 427 tons of plastic glue. Urea resins have thus far been produced only in experimental quantities; their production in 1951 was only 14 tons.

During 1951, the following quantities of plastics were processed: 650 tons of phenol resins, 120 tons of urea resins, 52 tons of melamine resins, 231 tons of cellulose acetate, 93 tons of polystyrol, 390 tons of nonplasticized polyvinyl chloride, 5 tons of polyethylene and 5 tons of plastic foil. The proportion of thermosetting plastics was 60 percent of the total output. For processing of plastics, Finland has 232 presses for forming plastics under pressure and in injection dies, with a total capacity of 13,300 tons, and 139 die-casting machines with a total capacity of 15,400 tons.

GLYCERIN IMPORTS TO RELIEVE SHORTAGE -- Berlin, Aussenhandels Nachrichten, 12 Jan 52

The greatest portion of the Finnish glycerin needs will be met through imports from The Netherlands.

According to a report by the Finnish Trade Association, difficulties exist at present in procuring glycerin from European countries, so that a perceptible shortage of glycerin prevails.

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RUBBER GOODS PRODUCTION -- Berlin, Aussenhandels Nachrichten, 19 Apr 52

A further expansion occurred in 1951 in the production of the Finnish rubber goods industry. Production of rubber footwear rose from 3,700,000 pairs in 1950 to 4,043,100 pairs in 1951. Also, 108,800 automobile tires (92, 100 in 1950) and 97,799 inner tubes (96,300 tubes in 1950) were produced. Because of the shortage of cord and steel wire, the production of bicycle tires dropped from 589,000 to 539,100 and inner tubes from 540,000 to 534,000. The production of other rubber products, however, increased by about 22 percent over 1950, a total increase of 937 tons.

Aussenhandels Nachrichten, 18 Oct 52

The manufacture of rubber products in Finland during 1952 is not expected to reach the high output attained in 1951. The supply of raw materials has thus far been good, but because of the dwindling of Finnish reserves of foreign exchange the situation has deteriorated. At present the industry has on hand raw materials for between 4 and 5 months of production. The Finnish imports of many types of rubber products are considered too high. In 1951, for instance, 2,906 tons of motor vehicle tires were imported. With a total requirement of 3,500 tons, Finnish production amounted to only about 1,930 tons, so that the capacity of domestic industry was not fully employed.

INCREASED PRODUCTION OF PHARMACEUTICALS -- Berlin, Aussenhandels Nachrichten, 26 Apr 52

The output of the Finnish pharmaceutical industry was valued at approximately 1.3 billion Finnish marks in 1951 as compared with 900 million Finnish marks in 1950. The total value of pharmaceutical goods imported is estimated at about 1.25 billion Finnish marks in 1951; 29.7 percent of these items were drugs. For 1950 such imports amounted to only 960 billion Finnish marks; 32.2 percent of these imports were drugs. The most important sources of supply were Great Britain, West Germany, and Denmark.

FINNISH ANTIBIOTICS IMPORTS -- Duesseldorf, Chemische Industrie, Vol VIII, 19 Aug 51

Imports of antibiotics by Finland during recent years are estimated by the trade as follows:

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Penicillin (in millions of international units)	43,916	307,959	624,579
Streptomycin (grams)	27,200	323,500	219,500
Chloromycetin (grams)	--	7,300	41,500
Aureomycin (grams)	--	4,800	41,700
Terramycin (grams)	--	--	4,740

The 1951 demand is estimated to equal that of 1950.

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